the last five years, the Central Government has given CFA of about Rs.633 crores for these schemes.

In addition, the Ministry of Power has released capital subsidy to the extent of Rs.4900 crores under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana since the inception of this scheme in 2005. Under the scheme, so far, 43,100 villages have been electrified and connections to 13.37 lakhs BPL families have been released.

Education Boards

*284. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Education Boards in the country at senior secondary level;

(b) the number of Boards at National and State Levels respectively;

(c) the rationale behind having multiple Senior Secondary Education Boards in the country;

(d) whether Government have done any study about desirability of multiple Boards;

(e) if so, the details of the outcome;

(f) whether Government propose to reduce the number of such Boards in the interest of standardised-curriculum and examination all over the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) As per information available with the Ministry, the number of Education Boards in the country conducting examinations at higher secondary level is 32 out of which 3 operate at national level and the remaining 29 at the State level.

(c) Education being a conourrent subject in the Constitution of India, States enact their own laws for educational activities which include setting up of Examination Boards as needed for smooth conduct of public examinations. Though all Boards in the country follow National Curriculum Framework, the detailed syllabi and textbooks differ from Board to Board to provide localization and diversity to be more meaningful.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) It is for the State Governments to reduce the number of Boards within their States, depending on the perceived need.